

1 1. An ear seal for use in a headset, said ear seal comprising an inner annular surface,
2 and an outer annular surface, said ear seal further including a thermal storage medium
3 proximate said outer annular surface.

1 2. The ear seal as claimed in claim 1, wherein said thermal storage material includes
2 paraffin wax-like substance.

1 3. The ear seal as claimed in claim 1, wherein said ear seal further includes a flexible
2 sheath onto which the thermal storage medium is attached.

1 4. The ear seal as claimed in claim 1, wherein said thermal storage material is
2 dispersed within a flexible foam matrix.

1 5. The ear seal as claimed in claim 4, wherein said flexible foam matrix material is
2 relatively wide with respect to a width of the ear seal and is relatively thin with respect to
3 a thickness of the ear seal.

1 6. The ear seal as claimed in claim 4, wherein said flexible foam matrix material is
2 inset from said outer annual surface of said ear seal.

1 7. The ear seal as claimed in claim 4, wherein said outer annular surface of said ear
2 seal extends beyond said flexible foam material along at least one annular surface of said
3 ear seal.

1 8. The ear seal as claimed in claim 4, wherein said flexible foam material forms an
2 annular ring that is intermediate a radially inner annular surface and a radially outer
3 annular surface of said ear seal.

1 9. The ear seal as claimed in claim 1, wherein said thermal storage material includes
2 a flexible foam material and a protective cover on at least one side of said flexible foam
3 material.

1 10. An ear seal for use in a headset, said ear seal comprising an inner annular surface
2 for contacting a headset, and an outer annular surface for contacting a user's head, said
3 ear seal further including a flexible foam matrix material proximate said outer annular
4 surface, and said flexible foam matrix material containing a thermal storage material
5 capable of storing thermal energy as latent heat of phase change.

1 11. The ear seal as claimed in claim 10, wherein said ear seal further includes a
2 flexible outer sheath enclosing said flexible foam material.

1 12. The ear seal as claimed in claim 10, wherein said flexible foam matrix material is
2 inset from said outer annual surface of said ear seal.

1 13. The ear seal as claimed in claim 10, wherein said flexible foam material forms an
2 annular ring.

1 14. The ear seal as claimed in claim 13, wherein said flexible foam material is
2 positioned intermediate a radially inner edge of said ear seal and a radially outer edge of
3 said ear seal.

1 15. The ear seal as claimed in claim 10, wherein said flexible foam material is
2 relatively thin with respect to its width.

1 16. An ear seal for use in a headset, said ear seal comprising an inner annular surface,
2 and an outer annular surface, an annular width and an annular thickness, said ear seal
3 further including a flexible foam matrix material proximate said outer annular surface,
4 and said flexible foam matrix material containing a thermal storage material capable of
5 storing thermal energy as latent heat of phase change, said flexible foam material further
6 including an annular width that is about 50% to about 75% of the annular width of said
7 ear seal, and including a thickness that is about 5% to about 15% of the annular thickness
8 of said ear seal.